

in the main art of public speaking Acadia has reason to congratulate herself. On this occasion many and marked were the tributes paid to the teacher and study of Elocution.

There is however a certain sameness about these Exhibitions that is hardly to be classed as a pleasing feature. Suitable selections get hackneyed or scarce and the performances savour somewhat of the small boy with his first piece.

A scene from one of Shakspeare's plays, the different characters being impersonated by as many speakers, would certainly give variety and strength to this routine, and would as certainly be not found deficient in intrinsic worth.

#### ATHENÆUM AT HOME.

IT has been customary for the Athenæum Society to give, annually, some kind of public entertainment. In other years, in the form of "Open Athenæum," "Mock Trial" or "Mock Parliament," it has been fairly successful, having stimulated the interest of the members in their society, and given amusement to the friends composing the audience. This year, following the example of our respected Faculty, it was decided that an "Athenæum at Home" would be a pleasant change.

Accordingly the evening of March 29th, saw the College building aglow with light from top to cellar. The night was fine and the one hundred and twenty members of the Society were pleased to see that nearly all of the three hundred guests invited were present.

Never did the Athenæum spend a pleasanter evening. Never before did College Hall look so gay:—the platform, thanks to the generosity of village ladies was decorated with beautiful plants—ivies, geraniums, callas, fuchsias and others more rare, until it was a study in botany and horticulture; the front of the new gallery was hidden by flags, tastefully arranged, the college banner being placed so that the motto "*In pulvere vinces*" formed the centerpiece.

Never before did College Hall contain so many curiosities,—dead ones—for the museums had been sacked by the energetic committee, and there on rows of tables, up, down and across the hall, laid cases,

containing all kinds of geological, zoological, anthological, entomological, and anthropological wonders; amethysts, trilobites, sea-weeds, oottled tarantulae, stone-hatchets, old coins, kayak, stuffed birds, and pickled snakes, cheerfully offered themselves as topics of conversation, and with laudable self-denial, did what they could to make things pleasant.

Never before did the College Library present so many attractions,—with books, albums and pictures where the lamps shone brightly, with sofas and easy chairs in dim, out-of-the-way corners, with those fascinating *London News* in the gallery, with that quaint staircase so narrow and awkward for two to climb, though none the less attractive, apparently, on that account.

Never before were the village ladies prettier, the seminary ladies wittier, or the Kentville ladies better dressed; and as for the singing by "the quartette" the reading by Miss Wallace, and the violin playing by Miss Fitch, they certainly were never better nor did they ever receive longer or louder applause. The quiet, orderly Botanical Classroom was even more inviting than usual, for there was spread the board groaning with refreshments, and there around it was the jolliest, happiest crowd the old room had ever seen.

Altogether the "At Home" was a success and an era in the history of the Society and the committee in charge well deserved the hearty vote of thanks presented at the next meeting of the Athenæum.

A. J. K.

#### EXCHANGES.

*The Sunbeam* is an enterprising journal with practical editorials full of wholesome advice. The part of the Canadian *versus* the American girl is well maintained. Would not a column of "Contents" be an improvement?

*The University Gazette* affords nearly a column to "Cuttings," another column to "College World" and column after column to "Society news" and matters of similar nature. These things are all very good in their place and perhaps will be read by those immediately concerned, but to have them inserted to